IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tomoyasu AMANO

Attn: BOX PCT

Serial No. NEW

Docket No. 2001-0287A

Filed March 15, 2001

AV DECODER CONTROL METHOD AND AV DECODER CONTROL APPARATUS [Corresponding to PCT/JP00/04689 Filed July 13, 2000]

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant requests consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
 - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
 - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
- 3. [] Consideration of the following additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

- a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
- b. [] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith.
- c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
- d. [] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- 5. [X] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tomoyasu AMANO

Nils E. Pedersen

Registration No. 33,145

Attorney for Applicant

NEP/krl Washington, D.C. Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 March 15, 2001

> THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

| Sheet 1 of 1 | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|--------------------|--------|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMISSIVE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) | | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 2001-0287A | SERIA NEW | 109/78 | 7284 | 4 |
| | | | | APPLICANT Tomoyasu AMANO | ······································ | | | |
| (Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: March 15, 2001 | | | | FILING DATE March 15, 2001 | GROUP | | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | | |
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.